2: Damm et al. --12 (1909) 1938 Woleaians
116, 142 Ifaluk

The natives are tall and well built. Their skin is light brown, and the hair is black. Children often have very brown, almost blond hair; it is cut near the shoulders, at least Sarfert never saw hair, that had been allowed to grow to its full length.

The men do not have much beard; whiskers are never worn, but they do have a beard on the chin. Moustaches are kept short, and they are not very popular.

2; Damm et al--117
116, 142

(1909) 1938

Woleaians
Aurupik

At first glance, the natives of Eauripik reminded Sarfert of the Sorol inhabitants. There were two distinct types of natives; some had a broad head, and were stocky; the others were slender, and with a narrow head; the latter were not so numerous. The women frequently had masculine features, and their coiffure enhanced this appearance. A number of the women wore most of their wavy hair cut short over the forehead, the rest had it long or parted. So there was no uniformity about it. Miklucho-Maclay apparently did not see any bobbed-heads among the natives, who came to call on him, for he writes that their curly and frizzled hair forms regular "caps". This recalls the costume of the young Rauelimar. The coiffure reminded Miklucho-Maclay of the natives of the islands southeast of Ceram; he concludes that there must be a mixture of Papuan blood on Aurepik.

Usually the women are considerably lighter than the men; the babies were almost as light as European children. Miklucho-Maclay identifies the coloring of the natives whom he saw on the ship as number 37 of Broca's scale.

3: Thilenius and Hellwig--245 (1909-10) 1927 Woleaians
116, 161, 609, 142 Aurupik

Only Aúrepik and Oäo, the two larger ones of the 5 islands of this atoll, are inhabited. The people of Aúrepik received the strangers hospitably, and they were courteous and communicative...and even the smallest children did not show the slightest fear... The population consisted of some 60 - 80 estimated persons. With regard to their appearance two types could be distinguished: one, very frequent type was brachycephalous and had a stout stature; the other type was less brachycephalous and somewhat slenderer. In general the skin of the women showed a lighter color than that of the men, and sucklings had almost the color of white babies.

4: Krämer--10 (1909) 1937 Woleaians
116, 142 Lamotrek

The inhabitants [MR: of Lamotrek] are light brown Central Carolinians. The pictures show that some refined types are represented. The hair of the natives in a few cases... is curly, but the faces do not have negroid features. Even big beards occur as the face of Ikisera shows [MR: see source, plate 2b]; his face may well be aligned with some European types. Noses are well formed and do not have the Malayan upturned forms. The latter is a little more pronounced with Bóesu and Urúpo [MR: see source, Plate 1a] but Sukurang of the same family does not have it; in his case we observe a more projecting zygomatic arch, which is enhanced by the thinness of his face. Also the girls... have very pleasing forms and agreeable features; the same is true of the woman on plate 3c [MR: see source] with her wide face. In the case of the half-breed Bessie Lewis [MR: see source, Plate 3d] the British mixture does not appear to an advantage.

4: Krämer--189-190 (1909) 1937 Woleaians
142 Woleai

Some of [VMM: the women] had pretty faces and had neither thick lips nor broad faces although they were inclined towards both. Their hair is black and long. The color of their skin is somewhat different from that of the men in that a sickish looking white-ness [190] is mixed with a natural olive color.

4: Krämer--201 (1909) 1937 Woleaians
116, 142 Woleai

In Lütke, Volume III, page 144 (Observations) the following is said: the inhabitants of the low islands are thin rather than fat and tall rather than short. Their hair is thick, brownish black and knotty. The nose protrudes and is wide and large, the lips thick, etc. These standards are applicable as a rule.

4: Krämer--201 (1909) 1937 Woleaians
116, 142 Woleai

The Caroline hand was found on three men. The hair of the women is straight, has wide waves, and that of almost all the men is quite frizzly and in one instance extremely curly. Cantova describes the islanders of Faroilap, who wanted to sail to Oleai and drifted to Guam; they had frizzly hair. The color of their bodies is the brown of the Central Carolinians.

6: Senfft--54
116, 142

(no date) 1905

Woleaians
Woleai
Lamotrek

The hair of the natives is either straight or slightly curly. Few of them have small curls, and I saw no cases of frizzly hair of the negroid type.

11: Born--177
116, 142, 101

(1903) 1904

Woleaians
Woleai

In physical structure, dress, language, and customs, the Oleaï natives belong to the Central Carolinians. They are closely related to the natives of Truk, Ululssi, Lamutrik, Satuwal, Sorol, Sonsol, Atogui, and Merir.

For the most part, they are of medium size and slender build; their skin is lighter than that of the people of Jap, and their features are regular and attractive. Their iris is dark brown, the conjunctiva bulbi has a yellow tinge and pigmentary spots. The shades of hair vary from dark brown to almost black, but the children are often dark blond; many of them have curly hair. Many of the women are as tall as the men. Frequently they have beautiful, well-proportioned bodies. The men have only a very slight beard.

The women also plait all kinds of mats, handbags, and small pouches in which tobacco, tinderboxes, kindling implements, and all the other small articles which the natives carry about with them may be kept. Betel, however, and the articles that go with it are missing; the Oleaï natives do not chew betel and therefore have beautiful white teeth.

12: Lutke--127
116, 142

(1828) 1835

Woleaians
Lamotrek

These men seemed better built to us than their eastern neighbors. There is no particular difference in their features.

28: Spiro--4-5
116, 142

(1947-48) 1949

Woleaians
Ifalik

"Since neither Dr. Burrows nor I did any physical measuring, the following descriptions are entirely impressionistic. One of the most impressive facts about physical type on Ifaluk is the degree of variation that obtains, in what is genetically as homogeneous a population as one could possibly find. As far as we know, the natives have never mated outside the little group of islands comprising the Yap district, and within that area, the population is considerably under 1000. And yet there is variation in skin color from light brown to dark (6); in stature from fairly tall to short; in hair form, from frizzly to straight; [5] in nose form, from wide, 'negroid', nostrils to narrow, 'caucasoid' ones; in lip form, from thin to thick, inverted lips. Yet, despite this variation, one would have little difficulty in identifying an Ifaluk as a Carolinian, and as quite different from the 'average' negroid, Caucasoid, or Mongoloid."

"6. There is one albino on Ifaluk--a woman."

40: Robertson--50
116, 142, 291, 262

(1875-76) 1877

Woleaians
Woleai

"They are a fine, well made race, good featured, light in colour, and are most harmless and inoffensive. This group has at one time been thickly inhabited and there are remains of piers and breakwaters similar to those found in the Pellows. The dress of the natives consists of a species of fine mat which they weave from the fibre of the pandanus. This group produces nothing but cocoanuts, which with fish is the sole food of the natives."

40: Robertson--50
116, 142, 304, 175

(1875-76) 1877

Woleaians
Ifalik

"On the 31st March the schooner hove to off Evalouk and several canoes came alongside. There is nothing to remark about these islands; they are low and of coral formation, producing nothing but the cocoanut. The natives traded off flying fish against tobacco. They are a tall, handsome race, of light colour, their bodies being closely tattoed all over, their dress being the same as that of the Oulleai people."

41: Bates & Abbott N-5 (1953) 1958
OR21 Woleai OR21
Ifaluk

were tucked in with some old clothes, and seemed contented enough.

In general, the people had fine physiques, and seemed very healthy. There was one woman who looked like an albino with freckles, and another old woman had her nose and upper lip completely eroded away, probably from yaws. Yaws was once prevalent in all of these islands, but it yields quickly to penicillin injections and during the post-war period of American control, the Navy medical service instituted an effective campaign of yaws control.

After the first three households had been completed, the party waded back across the shallow pass to "home" at the Fan Nap for lunch. The weather kept us in for the rest of the day. The sky had been completely overcast all morning, with occasional drizzling rains, but without strong wind. In the afternoon the wind became steadily stronger. It started to tear coconut fronds, even green ones, from the trees, and the coconuts themselves were being blown off in large numbers. Don noticed one coconut fall at an angle of about thirty degrees from the vertical in the wind, and he figured that the wind had the force of eight or nine on the Beaufort scale—gale force.

About four o'clock Maroligar and some other men came around to the Fan Nap and lashed poles and boards across the open western end, where it faced the lagoon. A tent that had been unpacked but not set up was dragged over and lashed to the poles, nicely cutting out the wind and rain and making the interior fairly snug and comfortable. But the noise of the wind and waves outside kept increasing. A typewriter could not be heard four feet away, even in this snug interior. (Ted was typing up his notes from the morning, impervious to typhoons.)

We kept worried eyes on the barometer and on the wildly swaying palms. Men everywhere were out battening down their house walls with matting, and running great ropes from the gables, making them fast to the bases of nearby palms. Maroligar, hovering about the Fan Nap with obvious concern about the guests on the island, made it clear that if things got much worse we should move in to one of the houses farther from the shore.

Then suddenly, about five o'clock, the worryings and speculations were disrupted by a wave of excitement. An airplane had been

41: Bates & Abbott N-5 (1953) 1958
OR21 Woleai OR21
Ifaluk

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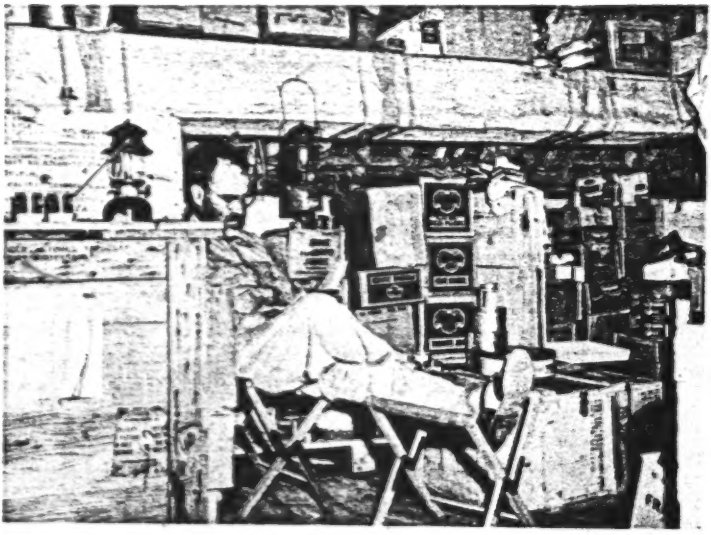

ABOVE Cases of food walled the kitchen area: Ted Burrows sometimes propped himself comfy there to read at night.

BELOW Don proposed a trade of English lessons for lessons in Ifalukian.

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516

[P. 32 (B)]

41: Bates & Abbott N-5 (1953) 1958
OR21 Woleai OR21
Ifaluk

five chief) weighed 182 pounds with a height of 5′ 7½″. Wolpaitig came closest of any man on the island to having a paunch. 141 561

The women were considerably more under American averages for height or weight. They were generally only an inch or so over or under five feet, weighing not much over a hundred pounds. The heaviest, a matron named Ietili of the Garotrong household, weighed 150 pounds, and was 5′ 1½″ tall. Ted suspected that the small size and light weight of the women was a consequence of the fact that they carried out the regular toil of the island—the heavy gardening work of the taro swamps as well as the work around the houses. 141 562 [462]

The Ifalukians would be classed as Micronesians: but what that means is anybody's guess. "Micronesia" is a geographical term to cover the hundreds of "tiny islands" of the Marianas, the Carolines, the Marshalls and the Gilberts. The inhabitants of these island groups, the Micronesians, are hardly to be distinguished from the more famous Polynesians: a rapid survey of several anthropology texts shows that the two are more often classed together than not. The inhabitants of the various island groups of Micronesia are certainly more diverse, both culturally and physically, than the inhabitants of Polynesia: but the similarities among all of these light-skinned people of the Pacific are greater than their differences. And the problem of the origin and history of the Ifalukians, of the Caroline Islanders, of the Micronesians, cannot be separated from the much-discussed problem of the origin of the Polynesians. 101

I think part of the European fascination with Polynesia (which would apply equally to the people of the central Carolines) comes from the fact that these people look very much like ourselves. The features of the Ifalukians were very European, and I amused myself by noting resemblances in certain individuals, in features or apparent characters, to particular friends or acquaintances in the States. The people were not really dark-skinned: both Don and I acquired a skin color within a month that matched the Ifalukian average, as determined by frequent comparisons of arms placed side by side. A pair of naked legs walking by the Fan Nap, observed under the low over-hang of thatch, could not be identified as Ifalukian or American. The Ifalukians 142 [[44]]

41: Bates & Abbott N-5 (1953) 1958
OR21 Woleai OR21
Ifaluk

were surely as mixed up racially as the Europeans (none of us can afford to be stuffy about purity of race) but the mixture in the Ifalukians must have contained some of the same elements as the European mixture. But how did they get so far away?

Most anthropologists believe that the Pacific islanders moved out from southeast Asia, perhaps around the beginning of the Christian era, when the inhabitants of southeast Asia may have had a larger "Caucasian" component in their racial mixture than now. Despite his daring feat with the Kon-Tiki, few experts have much faith in Thor Heyerdahl's theory of American origin: he certainly proved that cross-Pacific contact is possible, but the evidence of language, culture and race points overwhelmingly to a Malayasian origin. One of the more probable migration routes for the Polynesians is from southeast Asia to the Philippines and through the Caroline islands to the central and south Pacific.

One gets the feeling, in this Polynesian-Micronesian area, of dealing with cultures far more complex than the technology would indicate: of dealing with the remnants of a high culture, of a "civilization." One feels that these same people, with the resources of a continent, could have built Angkor Vat or Copan: and they did produce some spectacular carving and building in places like Ponape and Easter Island. It is easy to understand the lure of the search for some "lost civilization" to account for these cultures; to understand the desire to create a mid-Pacific "continent of Mu" after the fashion of Atlantis. Maybe there is a general human tendency to explain the fascinating with the fabulous. Certainly the Pacific islanders are fascinating enough; but they have given us very few clear clues to either their origin or their history, and the few clues that we have are in part conflicting. Probably we shall never arrive at a clear and unequivocal reconstruction of their past.

But we were absorbed with the Present on Ifaluk. We had not yet acquired a proper Ifalukian shade of brown when we finally managed to finish our census of the people: but even with our strange color, we had already begun to feel at home, to feel "Micronesian" ourselves, a part of the island.

41: Bates & Abbott N-5 (1953) 1958
OR21 Woleai OR21
Ifaluk

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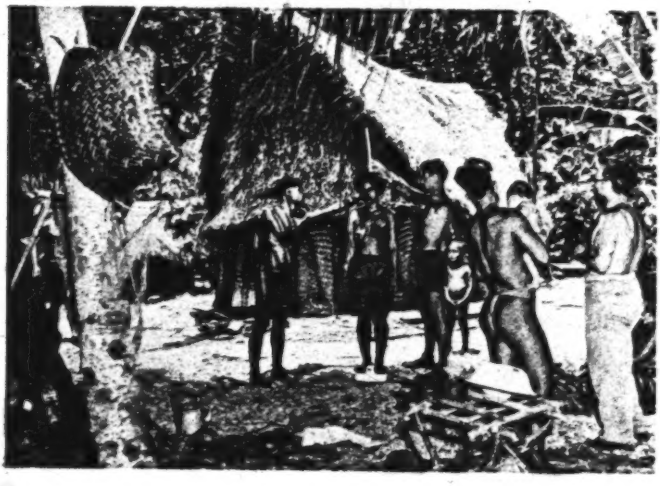
ABOVE There was little clutter on the floor of the houses: most family possessions were slung from the rafters.

BELOW The people of Ifaluk cooperated nicely in the census operation.



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[p. 64 (A)]

41: Bates & Abbott N-5 (1953) 1958
OR21 Woleai OR21
Ifaluk

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● 192

LEFT Yaniseman, constant companion and advisor.

RIGHT Totogoeiti (Tom), navigator and interpreter.

BELOW Fagolier, the paramount chief; and Gavileisei, craftsman and canoe builder.

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[P. 64 (B)]

41: Bates & Abbott N-5 (1953) 1958
OR21 Woleai OR21
Ifaluk

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RIGHT Sagolimar, who often worked with us.

LEFT Gauaisig, navigator and canoe builder.

BELOW Toroman, the number three chief and official divider of food.

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[P. 64(c)]

41: Bates & Abbott N-5 (1953) 1958
OR21 Woleai OR21
Ifaluk

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ABOVE The boondocks were not exactly wild; they were not exactly cultivated either.

BELOW We tried to collect botanical specimens of all of the kinds of plants on the atoll.

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192

[P. 64 (D)]